

What is claimed is:

1           1.    A personal computer card comprising:  
2                an extensible antenna;  
3                a coil spring that pushes the antenna from a  
4   retracted to an extended position; and  
5                a track laterally displaced with respect to the  
6   coil spring to guide the antenna as it is pushed to its  
7   extended position.

1           2.    The card of claim 1 wherein said track extends  
2   parallel to but is laterally displaced from the coil  
3   spring.

1           3.    The card of claim 2 including a catch that  
2   retains said antenna in the retracted position.

1           4.    The card of claim 3 wherein said catch is  
2   released when the antenna is pushed beyond its retracted  
3   position.

1           5.    The card of claim 3 including a heart-shaped  
2   groove, said catch including a finger that rides in said  
3   groove.

1           6.    The card of claim 5 wherein said finger is L-  
2   shaped and includes a free end.

1           7.    The card of claim 6 wherein said groove is heart-  
2   shaped.

1           8.    The card of claim 7 wherein said groove includes  
2   a locking position which holds said end to resist movement  
3   of said antenna.

1           9.    The card of claim 8 wherein said catch is spring  
2   biased.

1           10.   The card of claim 1 including a traveler that  
2   mounts said antenna and makes an electrical connection with  
3   a printed circuit board when said antenna is in its  
4   extended position.

1           11.   A method comprising:  
2                providing an extensible antenna in a personal  
3   computer card;  
4                providing a coil spring that pushes the antenna  
5   from a retracted to an extended position; and  
6                displacing a track laterally with respect to the  
7   coil spring to guide the antenna as it is pushed to its  
8   extended position.

1        12. The method of claim 11 including extending said  
2 track parallel to but laterally displaced from the coil  
3 spring.

1        13. The method of claim 11 including positioning a  
2 catch to releasably retain said antenna in the retracted  
3 position and enabling the catch to be released when the  
4 antenna is pushed beyond its retracted position.

1        14. The method of claim 13 including enabling the  
2 antenna to move more than 17 millimeters.

1        15. The method of claim 11 including enabling the  
2 antenna to move approximately 27 millimeters.

1        16. A traveler for extending an antenna out of a  
2 personal computer card, said traveler comprising:  
3            an extensible antenna;  
4            a coil spring that pushes the antenna from a  
5 retracted to an extended position; and  
6            a track engaging element, said element laterally  
7 spaced with respect to the coil spring to enable the  
8 antenna to be guided as it is pushed to its extended  
9 position.

1        17. The traveler of claim 16 wherein said track  
2 engaging element includes a U-shaped portion.

1        18. The traveler of claim 17 including an L-shaped  
2 member that engages said coil spring and includes a track  
3 that is engaged by said element.

1        19. The traveler of claim 16 including a resilient  
2 catch mounted on said element to engage said traveler.

1        20. The traveler of claim 18 wherein said traveler  
2 includes a heart-shaped groove, said catch including a  
3 finger that rides in said groove.